



CITY OF TAUNTON PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

*Taunton City Hall
141 Oak St. Taunton, MA 02780*

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www.taunton-ma.gov/pathways-committee*



*Phillip Duarte
Chair*

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MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING Wednesday, August 7, 2019 @ 7:00pm Municipal Council Chambers ~ Temporary City Hall 141 Oak St. ~ Taunton, MA 02780

Meeting called to order at 7:12pm by Phillip Duarte

Members Present:

Phillip Duarte
Karen Letendre
Deb Levesque
James Dufresne
Dick Shafer
Scott Martin
Eric Andrade - Mass in Motion
Bill Napolitano - SRPEDD

Members Not Present:

Jonathan Gray
Madeline Silva
Will Mendonca
Jake McNamara

Public Input: *None*

Reports:

Update from the Chair

- Update on West Water Street Easement
 - Phil sent a letter to the City Council on July 18th requesting that the City consider using its powers of eminent domain to allow the bike path to connect from West Water Street to the railroad bed. All that was requested at this point was for the City Council to approve the creation of a plan and an appraisal. The motion was made for us to work with the Law Department and design team to have this plan created and appraisal completed. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Motion to include the letter to the City Council dated July 18th as part of the record. Motion passes.**

Subcommittee Updates

- Advocacy: None
- Marketing: None
- Outreach: None

Old Business:

Neighborhood Walk-Throughs

- At the last meeting, we spoke about doing walk-throughs with the neighborhoods that abut the trail. Many of the neighbors that attended the first public meeting were from Railroad Ave. We cannot do a walk-through of that section of the trail until Brown, Richardson & Rowe begins designing it.
- Deb suggested that we do our own walk-through in the fall. She will arrange one for the weekend of September 21st/22nd.

New Business:

Review of Environmental Screening from Stantec

- This document details the permitting strategy for the project. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exclusion (CE) Checklist must be completed before we move forward with right-of-way acquisition work.
- **Motion to include the Environmental Screening from Stantec as part of the record. Motion passes.**

Review of PNF for Mass Historical Commission

- Stantec sent the Project Notification Form (PNF) for the trail to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. It typically takes about a month for them to review it.
- **Motion to include the PNF for Mass Historical Commission as part of the record. Motion passes.**

Review of Mass in Motion FY20 Work Plan

- Bike and Pedestrian Plan
 - Eric would like to have a draft of the plan completed by June of 2020. Public engagement work will begin in January of 2020.
 - The walking audit of the Whittenton area has been completed.
 - Eric will go over the results at the next meeting.
- Complete Streets
 - Eric is interested in reviving the Complete Streets Advisory Committee and getting the public involved on these issues.
- Safe Routes to School
 - Eric will be working with TJ and the DPW on Safe Routes to School grant funding for Elizabeth Pole Elementary School.

- Phil advised that the school must be more active in the programming aspect in order to be more competitive for grant funding.

Announcements:

- Next Meeting:
Wednesday, September 4, 2019 @ 7:00pm
Municipal Council Chambers ~ Temporary City Hall
141 Oak St. ~ Taunton, MA 02780

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm by Phillip Duarte